

# NEWS from

## Congressman Tom Harkin

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MAY 1, 1976

### "HARKIN HELPS WITH WINDMILL"

(Elk Horn, Iowa)---U.S. Congressman Tom Harkin worked all day Saturday in Elk Horn, helping in the reconstruction of that town's 46 feet high, 26 feet wide Danish windmill. He reported for work about 10:00 a.m. and worked until 5:00 p.m. He spent the day hammering away and helping with the heavy timbers needed to brace the windmill's main frame.

The windmill, which stood on Danish soil for 127 years, was purchased earlier this year by the Elk Horn community. It was dismantled in Denmark, piece by piece, and shipped to Elk Horn, where it is being reconstructed as a tourist attraction, a community Bicentennial project, and a tribute to the community's proud Danish heritage.

Harkin was invited to help in the reconstruction project after he successfully rescued the windmill from a snarl of bureaucratic red tape, which left it stranded on the docks in New York for over a month, with a \$2,000 import duty levied against it. Harkin protested the duty, and just last week, the community received a refund for the amount they'd previously been forced to pay.

Harkin said he "gladly accepted the offer" to work reconstructing the mill. "It's an honor to help with this project," he said. "Without a doubt, this is one of the biggest and best Bicentennial projects in the Midwest."

He added, the windmill will be a "symbol to all who see it of the many contributions Danish people have made, both here and in Denmark, and around the world, to freedom, liberty, and democracy."

"America is a great melting pot," Harkin added. "But it's important that we remember our rich heritage. Elk Horn's project will help not only Iowans to remember that heritage, but Americans from all over who will come hundreds of miles to see it."

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to the community, a strong Danish presence.  
as a positive expression of community responsibility. And a strong  
presence of these and other groups in the town, which is a strong indication  
of the strength of the local community. It is important to remember  
that the strength of the community is not just in the numbers of people  
who live in the town, but in the strength of the community as a whole.  
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THANKS VERY MUCH, MR. HARKIN.

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